HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1393

By DuBois

A RESOLUTION to designate the month of May as "American Stroke Month" in Tennessee.

WHEREAS, stroke is a leading cause of serious long-term disability and the third leading cause of death in the United States, killing over 150,000 Americans; and

WHEREAS, the themes for American Stroke Month 2008 are "Know the Stroke Warning Signs and Act in Time," to educate the public and policymakers about the importance of recognizing a stroke and acting quickly during a stroke emergency, and the "Power To End Stroke," to reduce stroke in African Americans, who are at particularly high risk of the disease, by empowering them to reduce their risk, recognize the warning signs, and respond quickly; and

WHEREAS, warning signs of stroke include sudden numbness or weakness of the face, arm, or leg, especially on one side of the body; sudden confusion, trouble speaking or understanding; sudden trouble seeing in one or both eyes; sudden trouble walking, dizziness, loss of balance or coordination; and sudden severe headache with no known cause; and

WHEREAS, Americans are more aware of the risk factors and warning signs for stroke than in the past, but still less than one in five adults can correctly identify all stroke symptoms; and

WHEREAS, new and effective treatments have been developed to treat and minimize the severity and damaging effects of strokes, but much more research is needed; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby designate May 2008 to be "American Stroke Month" in Tennessee and urge all citizens of our state to familiarize themselves with the warning signs,

symptoms, and risk factors associated with stroke so that we might begin to reduce the devastating effects of stroke on our population.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.